



April Newsletter

Spring is in the air...

There has been a flurry of activity from DEFRA in the last few weeks with the windows now open for:

- [Animal Health & Welfare grant](#)
- [Productivity & Slurry grant](#)
- [BPS claims](#)
- [Countryside Stewardship revenue claims](#), and
- [New Countryside Stewardship applications \(midtier and capital schemes\)](#)

With so many options available its important to think carefully about how participation in schemes and grants fits in with the overall objective for your business.

Through our Farming Resilience projects with Prince's Countryside Fund and Ricardo you can access business advice to help inform these decisions. The advice is free and will help you identify priorities for your enterprise as we move forwards in the transition period between BPS and ELMS. Information about the support available locally is included below - please do get in touch if we can help.



Upcoming Events



Agronomist & Adviser Briefing

Tuesday 28th March

8.30-10am

Online Webinar



Practical Nutrient Management Planning

Wednesday 29th March

7-8.30pm

Online Webinar



Reducing pesticide losses; better storage, better spraying, better soil

Thursday 20th April

10am-1pm

Lower House Farm, HR8 2TG



Spring Plant Fair

Wednesday 26th April

10.30am - 4pm

Broxwood Court nr Pembridge



Farming in a Floodplain

Thursday 27th April

10.30am - 2.00pm

Waterhay, Cricklade, SN6 6QY



Future Farm Resilience

Thursday 27th April

5-7pm

Ledbury Community Hall, HR8 2AE

[See our Events Calendar for all event details here.](#)

Advice & Support

Prince's Countryside Fund's Farm for the Future

Herefordshire Rural Hub is delivering a series of free training events and 1:1 support so farmers can make informed decisions about the future of their farm business and discover opportunities with

DEFRA's Future Farm Resilience Fund

Herefordshire Rural Hub are working with Ricardo to deliver this programme locally. It offers 1:1 support, webinars and podcasts about a variety of topics relating to the Agricultural Transition.

the ELM schemes that may financially and practically benefit their farm.

Advice & Support Available Across Herefordshire from the Wye & Usk Foundation

The WUF Catchment Advisers can assist with Woodland Creation Applications, Severn Trent pesticide grant scheme applications and undertake natural capital surveys in the Wye Valley AONB.

Mental Health & Wellbeing in the Agricultural Community

Do you work in farming or agriculture; or perhaps someone in your family or someone you care for does? Have you, or that person, had any issues with their mental health or wellbeing, or had to seek support from mental health services?

We want you to tell us what you think the issues are to tailor services for our community in the future.

Click [here](#) to complete the survey.

Free Specialist Advice Visits available with Catchment Sensitive Farming

CSF offer a number of free specialist visits to farmers within the Wye catchment including nutrient management planning, infrastructure audits and advice on Countryside Stewardship Schemes.

Animal Health & Welfare Scheme

Register your interest now to access the Annual Health and Welfare Review.

This is a fully funded annual visit from your chosen vet to provide advice on your animals health and welfare priorities. The visit can include diagnostic testing for endemic diseases like BVD.

Click [here](#) to register or more information can be found in this [blog](#).

Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors - rural estate management, land issues, succession planning and estate administration for farming families

Useful Links

DEFRA Future Farming Blog

Livestock Information Service

John Nix Pocketbook

Farm Fire Safety Leaflet



Funding & Schemes



Latest

Basic Payment Scheme Now Open for 2023

The claim window for Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) 2023, the final year of BPS, opened on 14th March, with the deadline for claims and entitlement transfers being midnight on 15th May 2023.

You could be forgiven for thinking this is a normal year but it is very important that you submit a claim this year to ensure that you are eligible for delinked payments in 2024 to 2027. Failure to do so could compromise your future receipt of payments.

This years claim process remains the same as in previous years.

The payment window for BPS 2023 is from 1st August to 30 June 2024. The payment will continue to be made in two installments; 50% August and the balance in December.

[Find out all the details here](#)

Want to create or restore flower rich grassland in the Wye Catchment?

Air Wick and WWF-UK have partnered with The Wye & Usk Foundation and Herefordshire Meadows to offer capital payments for meadow creation and restoration in the Wye Catchment.

Rural Payments Agency; Schemes & Grants

Find out everything you need to know about Sustainable Farming Incentive, Countryside Stewardship Scheme, Water Capital Grants, Farming Investment Fund and Lump Sum Exit Scheme.

Severn Woodlands Grant Scheme

A grant scheme in the River Severn catchment with no minimum scheme size to qualify and payments up to £5000/ha. Severn Rivers Trust will provide support on designing the woodland, completing the application and undertaking the work.

Woodland Creation Grants Available

Use the Forestry Commission EWCO to create new woodland, including through natural colonisation, on areas as small as 1ha. Land managers will receive payments of over £10,000/ha to support their woodland creation scheme.

Farming Equipment and Technology Fund 2023

You can apply for a grant for specific items of equipment and technology for farming, horticultural and forestry businesses.

FETF 2023 has been split into 2 themes:

DEFRA's Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

Are you a farmer, land manager or a collaborative group in the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB)?

Funding is available for capital works and project activity that benefit the river and our local landscape.

- Productivity and Slurry items ([Annex 3](#))
- Animal Health and Welfare items ([Annex 4](#)).

To discuss your proposal contact Anna Stankiewicz by emailing:

farming@wyvalleyaonb.org.uk

FETF 2023 grant is competitive, and you will not automatically get a grant. More [here](#).

David Mead Consultancy - Rural Land Agents & Property Consultants

Jack Hughes Fund

Support available to farmers and farm staff aged over 40 years working on a Herefordshire farm that wish to undertake training or development.

CLA Charitable Trust

Grants for charitable organisations supporting disadvantaged children, young people & adults through delivering rural access, recreation & education opportunities.

Marches Energy Grant

Help for businesses to improve their energy efficiency and drive down carbon emissions has been launched by the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership.

Energy Bill Relief Scheme

Currently provides a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic consumers



Waste: Environmental Permits

Check if you need a permit to use, treat, store or dispose of waste and find out how to apply.

Animal Transport Authorisations

If you move animals more than 65km as part of your business activity or for trade you must have a transport authorisation issued by APHA.

Animal Gathering Licenses

If you want to hold an animal gathering, the premises must have an [Animal Gatherings Order \(AGO\) licence](#) from APHA

Farming Rules for Water

The rules require good farming practice, so that farmers manage their land both to avoid water pollution.

Useful Contacts

Rural Services Helpline

Single number for all Farming Advice Service, Rural Payments Agency or Animal and Plant Health Agency queries - Tel: [03000 200 301](tel:03000200301)

Animal Health & Trading Standards

Tim Barber (Herefordshire) Tel: [01432 383145](tel:01432383145)
Fax: [01432 383169](tel:01432383169)

Country Land & Business Association

Helen Dale (Rural Adviser - Midlands) Tel: [01785 337010](tel:01785337010) Email: helen.dale@cla.org.uk

Natural England

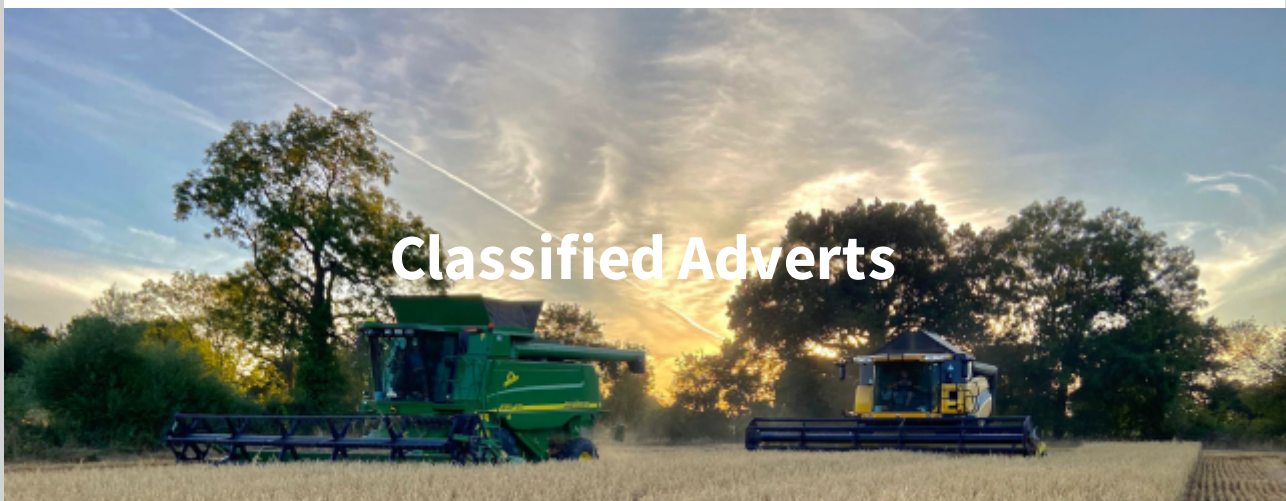
Tel: [0300 060 1115](tel:03000601115) Email: enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk

Environment Agency

Local Contact: Suzanne King-Davies Tel: [02030 251573](tel:02030251573) Email: suzanne.king-davies@environment-agency.gov.uk

National Farmers Union

Ali Parker (Herefordshire County Adviser)
Tel: [01952 400500](tel:01952400500)
Email: Ali.Parker@nfu.org.uk



RJ Trees

RJ Trees and Hedging is a new specialist bare root nursery near Ross-on-Wye, growing tree saplings for forestry/woodland creation or restocking and native hedging plants.

With over 2 million plants in production in many varieties, and stock of the highest quality grown by Ray Jenkins who has over 35 years' experience, please take advantage of this new Herefordshire based grower for your woodland and hedging projects.

Contact Ray Jenkins for a quote on [07512 024007](tel:07512024007) for order online at www.rjtreesandhedging.co.uk.

Training Providers

7Y Training Services

- Chainsaw maintenance
- Emergency first aid at work
- Mental health first aid
- Rough terrain telescopic & ATVs
- Safe use of pesticides & slug pellets

See full list of courses at our website [here](#). To email 7Y [click here](#).

Hereford & Ludlow College

- Felling & processing trees
- Safe use of pesticides
- Tractor Driving for 13-16yr olds
- Chainsaw maintenance
- Safe use of vertebrate pest control

For course details [click here](#) or visit our [website](#) for a list of courses.

7Y Training Services - Upskill on safe use of equipment, pesticides and Health & safety requirements on farm

Our Team



Kate Speke-Adams Managing Director

To discuss any issues facing your business, our projects or opportunities to work with us [click here](#).



Fran Keogh - Adminstrator

For advertising packages, admin or finance queries [click here](#).



Sarah Starkey - Farm Resilience Project Manager

For info about any of our resilience projects [click here](#).



Cherelyn Griffiths-Gould Farm Herefordshire Coordinator

For info about events and 1:1 advice available from our partners [click here](#).



Martha Rudge - Farm Resilience Project Officer

For info about any of our resilience projects [click here](#).



Newsletter Editor

To place an advert or promote an event [click here](#).



Working with
**THE PRINCE'S
COUNTRYSIDE FUND**



Rural Hub Herefordshire

**We're proud to have been
selected by PCF to be part of their
Farm Support Group Initiative**

Disclaimer *The Herefordshire Rural Hub accepts no liability for any direct, indirect or consequential loss arising from any action taken in reliance on the information contained.*

Herefordshire Rural Hub

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